

## A N D I K Ā .

Andakā or Andikā, literally means a tiny egg or seed. It is however called as weight in the work of medicine. It is referred<sup>1</sup> there earliest in the Charaka-Saṃhitā as is said to be equivalent<sup>1</sup> to 4 Yavas (barleys) and one-fourth of a Māshaka. The same is said about it in the Ashtāṅga-hrīdaya, which is dated to the ninth Century A.D. This means that Andikā was a very small weight.

In the Bṛihaspati and Kātvāyana Smritis which are dated in Circa 500 and 600 A.D. by Kane, it is used as synonymous for Kāshāpana and four of it made a Dhānakā<sup>2</sup>. This shows that Andikā, as a coin, was of a quite heavy weight; but this term as coin, is not known else where.

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1. धान्यमाण-द्वयं यवः, अण्डिका ते तु चत्वारस्त श्वस्रु माणकः ।

Charaka-Saṃhitā (N.S.P. ed.), p.675.

2. B.S. No.45, p.231.